

outflow; endemic corruption; ethnic and sectarian violence; a weak judiciary; and a serious threat from domestic and international terrorists. The October 12, 2002 bombings in Bali were the most grievous instance of terrorism since the September 2001 attacks on the United States. The carnage in Bali was a wake-up call for Indonesians and their government, and Indonesia joined the fight against terrorism. Local police arrested more than 90 suspected terrorists, but more are still at large as shown by the August 5, 2003 attack on the J. W. Marriott Hotel in the heart of the capital city Jakarta. Fourteen people (all but one were Indonesians) died as a result of that attack and 150 were injured.

There are continuing problems, but the news from Indonesia has not by any means been all bad. Since 1999 the country has had a free and fair national election and two peaceful presidential successions. Its media are among the most free in Southeast Asia. Civil society is flourishing, and more than 5,000 non-governmental organizations are active across a broad range of sectors. Constitutional reform and decentralization have made the government less top-down. For the first time, beginning in 2004, the president and vice president will be directly elected. In this process of reform, the leaders of major Muslim organizations have played a constructive role in defining relations between religion and the state. The ceasefire agreement in Aceh has failed, but those between hostile ethno-religious groups in the eastern islands are holding. And the Indonesian economy, despite its vulnerabilities, has stabilized in important respects.

The country is now at a critical juncture in its democratic transition and economic recovery. This is therefore an opportune time for the United States to rethink its approach to Indonesia. A failure of democracy there would hurt not only Indonesians. It would reinforce the stereotype that a Muslim-majority nation cannot manage a democratic system. Given the size and importance of Indonesia, we believe that success of that nation's democracy would not only provide a better life for its people but also reduce vulnerabilities to radicalism and have an impact beyond Indonesia's borders.

For these multiple reasons, the National Commission on U.S.-Indonesian Relations recommends that the United States and Indonesia enter into a "Partnership for Human Resource Development" in which the two nations pledge to work together on joint programs to promote in Indonesia an effective democracy, sustainable development, and the rule of law. The idea of a formal partnership is new to this important bilateral relationship. We believe this concept is essential to increase the prospects for success and to ensure that both nations buy into these programs and are committed to make them succeed. In other words, that both accept ownership.

Events in the coming five years, including national elections in 2004 and their consequences, will determine the fate of Indonesia's democracy and the nature of the new leadership generation expected to emerge before the following elections in 2009. Accordingly, we recommend that the United States pledge \$200 million annually in additional assistance funds to this partnership during this five-year period. The Commission believes that Indonesia would be a good candidate for funding under the Millennium Challenge Account. Whatever the source, it is important that these be add-on funds that do not disrupt important ongoing assistance programs.

These additional funds would be used to strengthen existing programs and initiate new programs in four critical fields:

1. Education—work with Indonesian officials to strengthen the nation's educational

system at all levels, including Islamic schools, and rebuild ties with U.S. educational institutions. Before the fall of Suharto, Indonesia's experience with democratic systems and practices was limited to a few years in the 1950s, so that most Indonesians living today have had no direct experience with democracy. As a result, Indonesia's democracy must be built from the ground up. A key prerequisite for success is an informed electorate. Education is the key to success and is also essential to give greater depth to the management level in virtually all sectors. We therefore attach special importance to education and urge prompt, large-scale U.S. support.

2. Democratization—improve governance, speed and deepen legal reform, strengthen parliament and the electoral system, and help ensure the effectiveness of decentralization.

3. Economic Growth—improve the investment climate, strengthen Indonesia's private sector, expand trade, facilitate the resumption of full debt servicing.

4. Security—strengthen the police and, when practicable, resume carefully crafted military education programs that will strengthen those elements willing to promote reform.

In addition to these funding priorities, ongoing U.S. assistance for emergency relief and improved health should be continued. Bolstering the ethical rationale for such support is the contribution it can make to reducing hardship and thus limiting the grievances that can be used to incite cycles of violence and repression.

Indonesia today offers a unique but temporary window of opportunity for the United States to help this nation of 230 million people build an effective democracy based on a civil society and a market economy under the rule of law. The time to rise to the occasion is now.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO LYNN WELDON

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 4, 2003

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a solemn heart that I take this opportunity to pay tribute to the life of Lynn Weldon, who passed away recently at the age of 73. Lynn was a pillar of the Alamosa, Colorado community. As his family mourns their loss, I think it is appropriate that we remember his life and celebrate the work he did on behalf of others.

After graduating from high school, Lynn attended Central Missouri State University. Upon receiving his bachelor's degree, Lynn went on to complete his master's degree at the University of Kansas. Lynn then served in the U.S. Army from 1953 to 1955 during the Korean conflict. His service to the United States during a time of war is illustrative of his character. He was a man wholly devoted to his country, family, and friends. After returning from Korea, Lynn received his Doctorate of Education from the University of Kansas in 1957 and, in June of the same year, married Arvilla Pement.

In 1958, Lynn was offered a teaching job at Adams State College; it was there that he began a 40-year teaching career. Throughout his tenure at Adams State, Lynn taught a variety of subjects ranging from philosophy to the paranormal. He was also known for his ex-

traordinary dedication to community service. Lynn served on the Alamosa City Council for nearly 20 years, ministered with the Community Church of Christ, and performed with the San Luis Valley Mellow Tones. He was also instrumental in the movement to build a cultural center in Alamosa.

Mr. Speaker, Lynn's dedication and selflessness certainly deserve the recognition of this body of Congress. It is my privilege to pay tribute to him for his contributions to the Alamosa and Colorado communities. I would like to extend my thoughts and deepest sympathies to Lynn's family, friends, and former students during this difficult time.

NATIONAL FAMILY WEEK

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 4, 2003

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize National Family Week and the importance of strong families to the future of our communities and our country.

The purpose of National Family Week, November 23–29, 2003, is to recognize that Connections Count when it comes to strengthening families and communities. Strong families are at the center of strong communities. Everyone has a role to play in making families successful, including neighborhood organizations, businesses, nonprofits, policymakers, and of course families themselves.

Families thrive when they are connected to the opportunities, networks, support, and services that enable them to succeed. This includes everyday access to high-quality transportation, technology, education, and child care; opportunities to build a solid financial foundation; and positive social relationships within and among families, as well as quality support from community networks and institutions.

National Family Week is a great time to honor the connections that support and strengthen families year-round. These connections can be as simple as the grandmother or the neighbor who watches the kids while parents work; the network of friends or the placement center that connects parents to a new job; the place of worship or neighborhood organization that connects the family to others in the community, the community leader or policymaker who rethinks, revamps, or redirects policies, practices, and resources to better benefit families, and the parents who listen to their children and always have time for a big hug.

For 33 years, the Alliance for Children and Families and its more than 350 nonprofit members have promoted National Family Week throughout the nation. Every day these child- and family- serving organizations make a difference for families of all shapes and sizes. This holiday season, for example, One Columbus, Inc. in Columbus, Georgia, is sponsoring a series of events to recognize families. Several of these events include a community breakfast, the awarding of family friendly business awards, a community family walk, and community-wide non-denominational church services.

National Family Week is a great time for all of us to recommit to enhancing and extending